

The Sycamores
12 Beverley Rd
South Cave
Brough
East Yorkshire
HU152AU
31st May 2024.



Dear Tim

Greetings from All Saints Church in South Cave and the UK.

Pentecost - a time of great change and new opportunity! Here, we are experiencing change locally and nationally - though of course not of the magnitude nor significance as of 2000 years ago.

Following over a year of interregnum we welcomed our new vicar Revd. Andrew Moreland and his wife Elizabeth. They seem to be settling into life in the Parish. Andrew had a period of ill health which delayed their arrival but thankfully he seems to be much better now. Both are very personable and are building good relationships which we pray will bear much fruit.

Within our Church - new services are appealing to new people which is wonderful but we are conscious of the need to foster a unified vision for the future. Home groups are thriving with many benefitting from the fellowship. Bubble Church is reaching out to young families and the school's new headmaster is keen to build Christian values and education for children. Fifth Sunday shared meals continue to be well supported and in inviting neighbours we have created an informal welcoming opportunity.

Safeguarding in the Church of England seems to cause continuing misunderstanding and confusion. Clare Wood has done great things in ensuring that we are all engaged and trained.

Personally, I am continuing to work on a "zero hours basis" and enjoying this. I do not miss the on call and nights of sleep lost. It has given me time for holidays and family time. During Christmas, my knee finally progressed with the arthritis developed following my two cartilage tears and subsequent operations. The change has out paid to my tennis and mountaineering but I cannot complain as I managed 16 good years of activity after the initial injury. In March I enjoyed a wonderful cycling holiday in Vietnam - a country I have longed

to visit. Sadly, it is no longer a country of cyclists - rather motorcyclists and Halong Bay is quite touristy. That said the trip, companions and the country were wonderful.

I have just returned from Norway visiting my niece Rachel and her family. Ella my eldest great niece has been poorly and in hospital for four months. Thankfully, she is now doing well and her personality is once more shining through. Ava her little sister turned one whilst we were there - so we had a lovely celebration - toasting them both. And the sun shone!

Returning to the theme of change - we are preparing for a general election in the UK. It is not clear who will prevail and all parties are producing new promises to attract voters. We pray that the best people for the country and the people will be successful.

I was sorry to hear of the break in at nearby 'casa pastoral' and the attempt on your property. Many years ago I was broken into - and it was an awful feeling. Glad to hear that your security has been strengthened. How is your colleague Victor González? Has he had an operation?

I am very fond of the Samuel quote (1 Samuel 2:30) due to student memories relating to the film Chariots of Fire - where Jackson Scholz the US athlete passes Eric Liddell a note "It says in the good book - 'I will honour he who honours me'. Good luck, Jackson Scholz." It was a sensitive contextual comment- entirely appropriate for Eric Liddell's witness.

We send our love to all involved in translating God's word and developing discipleship materials in the Chaco. Rest assured you are all in our prayers. We pray that technical skills and improved connectivity might enhance communication, education and development. We pray for the Indigenous Anglican Congress that all who attend may encounter God's presence and come away blessed and recharged by the Spirit.

Thank you for your focus on all that is pure, lovely, just, gracious and excellent. In the UK we have had the shocking events of the Post Office scandal and the terrible consequences of blood components given to patients in the 1980's. Both of these scandals cried out for a shift in focus away from a corporate protective response to a more human, compassionate approach and a willingness to seek justice for the individual.

May we all always seek out that which is true and good.

Sending our love and wishing you every blessing.

Chris